MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION(SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The proposal has been Jointly inspected by the Railways and Irrigation Authorities. The Irrigation Department has been advised to carryout the work under Railways supervision duly depositing the supervision and other charges as per Railway rules.

Derailment of Hyderabad-Narsapur Express

749. SHRI N. R. DASARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hyderabad-Narsapur Express got derailed near Sattenapalli in Guntur District on 8th October killing 11 persons and injuring more than 30 persons;

(b) whether anohter derailment took place within a week, i.e. on 15th Oct. at the same route at Maniguda village near nalgonda town involving Inter City Express, between Hyderabad and Guntur, injuring sixteen persons;

(c) if so, the details and reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh has wanted an inquiry into frequent accidents by an independent agency other than railway Department; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) Yes sir, there was derailment of 7056 Hyderabad-Narsapur Express on 8.10.1998 wherein 11 persons were killed and 37 injured.

(b) yes sir, there was also another derailment of 7006 Inter City Express in which 12 persons were injured.

(c) The accidents were due to Sabotage and human failure respectively.

(d) and (e) yes sir, the accident enquiry in case of above mentioned accident is being conducted by Commissisoner of Railway Safety, South Central circle who is an independent authority under the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

Conversion of Express Train into Ordinary Train

750. SHRI JOYANTA ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any specific rule for converting an Express train into an ordinary train at any point, after its departure from the starting point as Express one;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) on how many occasions the 3103 UP Bhagirathi Express was converted into ordinary passenger train from Krishnagar city Junction during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION(SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir. However, during dislocations caused by derailments/agitatiosn some Express trains are provided additional stoppages to clear standed passengers.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) 3103 Up Bhagirathi express has been provided some additional stoppags to clear standed passengers between Debagram and Lalgola on 4 occasions during the last six months (between May 1998 and Oct. 1998).

Rail Accidents

751. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of rail accidents involving goods as well as passenger trains during last ten months;

(b) how many of these were due to derailments;

(c) the losses due to these accidents;

(d) whether human factor has been the main cause for these accidents; and